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Technology Center 2600

Applicant: Cooper, J. Carl
Serial No.: 09/545,529
File Date: April 7, 2000
Invention: Audio to Video Timing Measurement
for MPEG Type Television Systems

Examiner:
Art Unit: 2711
Docket: JCC400A

April 30, 2001
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ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Information Disclosure Statement Submission

Dear Sir:


Applicant submits herewith an Information Disclosure Statement listing a pertinent published patent application EP 0 868 082 A2 which has recently come to Applicant's attention through discussions with the assignee of this application, Tektronix. Please note that U.S. Patent 6,211,919 corresponds to this EP application, but did not issue until April 3, 2001. Since the European application was published before the filing of the instant CIP, it is believed more pertinent than the Corresponding U.S. Patent.

The Zink reference pertains generally to encoding data into the active video (image) area of a video signal in an invisible fashion by the use of watermark type techniques. The reference for the most part teaches how to accomplish the transparent embedment of the data in the video signal. At column 1, lines 29-45 the reference states that the "the audio envelope" may be embedded and

“to detect and compare the received audio with the original which was coded and embedded as data within the video signal as a quality measure as well as video to audio delay”. While this statement appears related to the present invention, it is not clear how Zink et al propose to “to detect and compare the received audio with the original which was coded and embedded as data within the video signal” or how this detect and compare would serve “as a quality measure as well as video to audio delay”.

At column 9, lines 48-54 Zink et al state “The identifying mark may represent an audio signal or at least a signature of the audio into the active video to allow a remote video receiver to compare the audio signature with the received audio to automatically advance or delay the relative audio to video timing to maintain sound to video synchronization as encoded at the source”. While this statement appears related to the present invention, and the Zink et al invention does describe how to encode data in a video signal, it is not clear how Zink et al propose to create an “identifying mark which may represent an audio signal or at least a signature of the audio” or how to “allow a remote video receiver to compare the audio signature with the received audio to automatically advance or delay the relative audio to video timing to maintain sound to video synchronization as encoded at the source”.

It is respectfully requested that this application pass to examination.

Sincerely,

J. Carl Cooper
Reg. 34,568